

# 31st Annual Statewide Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics



*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier*

**Delaware** – The **31st ANNUAL STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS** involving over **500** Law Enforcement Officers and spanning 160 miles will be held between **Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**. The 2017 event is the 31st annual Torch Run, and in its history, Delaware Law Enforcement will have raised over \$6.5 million.

Special Olympics Delaware provides a year-round program of quality sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and/or cognitive delays. A family of over 4,000 volunteers makes this program

possible for the more than 4,200 athletes who compete in Special Olympics Delaware. The organization builds sports skills, confidence, strength, motivation and self-esteem ... not just for the athletes, but for everyone involved.

This year's Torch Run will be a three-day event, starting in Rehoboth Beach on **Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. The Torch Run Kickoff ceremony is preceded by the Bike Prologue at 5:00 p.m., which is open to everyone and all are encouraged to participate. Live music by 33 1/3 will lead the gala Torch Run sendoff from the **Rehoboth Beach Bandstand** at 7:00 p.m.

On **Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** the Torch will start at Lewes (6:30 a.m., Troop 7), Georgetown (7:00 a.m., The Circle) and Delmar (6:00 a.m., Rt.13 and Rt.54) and will travel to Milford, Harrington, and Dover where a brief stop will be held at Legislative Hall at 2:00 p.m., and then continue on to Smyrna and Odessa. The event continues on **Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** from Troop 9 at 6:00 a.m., with the Torch proceeding to the Wilmington Police Headquarters in Wilmington for a 9:45 a.m. celebration. The event culminates with a final leg into the University of Delaware Bob Carpenter Center for the official opening of the [2017 Summer Games](#) where the **Special Olympics Flame of Hope** will be delivered.

Information about the event and maps of the run can be found by clicking on the attached link: <http://www.sode.org/fundraisers/law-enforcement-torch-run>.

To learn more about the Bike Prologue and to register, please click on this link: <http://www.sode.org/bike-prologue/>.

Released: 060217 0800

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